

GAU-2711 \$

Our Ref.: P/3156-3

Date: May 18, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2711

Examiner: Unknown

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Submitted herewith is a copy of art together with an art listing form listing the same for the convenience of the Examiner.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | The document(s) listed on the attached art listing form was/were cited in a Search Report issued by a foreign patent office in a related application. A copy of the Search Report (in the English language) is attached hereto for the Examiner's reference.  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The Japanese Publication(s) listed on the attached art listing form was/were cited in a Japanese Office Action issued in a related application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action and an English-language translation of the relevant portions are also attached.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | This submission is being made after the issuance of a first Office Action and three months after the application filing date. Thus a Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is set forth below.   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Submission was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Submission (37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)). If a Notice of Allowance has been issued prior to the mailing date of this IDS, Applicant(s) hereby Petition for consideration of the same. Please charge the fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I) to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700. |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | This submission is being made after the issuance of the first Office Action and without a certification. The fee of \$240.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is attached.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | This submission is being made after the issuance of a final rejection or a Notice of Allowance but prior to the payment of the issue fee. Applicant(s) hereby Petition for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and attach the fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I). A certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is set forth above.   |

Respectfully submitted,

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SIW:sks/Enclosures

Adjustment date: 11/27/2000 HFLETCHE  
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